GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:154
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2016
POOL OF TELECOM PROFESSIONALS
Tanwar Shri Kanwar Singh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to create a country-wide industry ready pool of telecom professionals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Ministry has asked telecom companies to train students across ITIs in line with industry''s operational requirements to handle the gamut of technical work relating to roll out and maintenance of mobile network;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Ministry''s directive stems from priority being accorded by Government in involving the private sector for revamping technical institutes such as ITIs for skill building and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) Yes Madam, the Government proposes to create country-wide industry ready telecom professionals.

(b) Department of Telecom has prepared a Telecom Sector Skill Plan after due consultations with different stakeholders namely telecom service providers, telecom service associations, TSSC (Telecom Sector Skill Council) and after placing due consideration to different flagship schemes of the government namely Smart Cities, Make in India, Digital India etc.

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has conducted an environmental scan and produced a Skill Gap Study Report. In addition Indian Cellular Association has given a forecast of requirement of skilled Manpower for Mobile Manufacturing Sector. Thus as per the skill gap study report of various agencies put together and after an objective assessment, it is observed that the total telecom sector manpower shall grow from 4.00 million in 2016-17 to 8.78 million in 2021-22 creating additional requirement of 4.78 million (say 4.8 million approx.) in a period of five years.

Further, as per the analysis of TSSC (Telecom Sector Skill Council), a telecom setup has invariably 20-25% high end skilled people comprising of engineers, MBAs, CAs, HR experts etc and as per experience such high end skilled people require no specific skill training rather they are given short term 2-4 weeks orientation course on the job by the employer.

The balance manpower comprising of 75-80% would require telecom skill trainings. Keeping the optimistic figure of 80%, the telecom skilling required till 2021-22 will be to the tune of 3.84 million.

DoT has 04 major PSUs namely BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited), MTNL (Maha Nagar Telephone Nigam Limited), ITI and TCIL (Telecom Consultants Of India Limited). BSNL has 29 training centers and MTNL has 02 training centers. ITI (Indian Telephone Industries) has a training centre in Bangalore and a 'Centre of Excellence' is being created exclusively for skill development activities. Although TCIL has no training centre of its own, for skill needs, it conducts skill development programs in schools and other training institutions. Similarly TSSC has 479 training partners having 2100 training centers across the nation

The proposed plan to create 3.85 million telecom skilled manpower is tabled below:
Sl no. Organization 2017-18 2018-19 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22 Total
1. BSNL 88,000 97,000 1,07,000 1,20,000 1,30,000 5,42,000
2. MTNL 5,500 6,000 6,700 7,500 8,500 34,200
3. TCIL 18,700 21,000 23,000 25,000 27,500 1,15,200
4. ITI 2,600 2,800 3,000 3,500 4,000 15,900
5. TSSC 4,00,000 5,00,000 6,50,000 7,50,000 8,50,000 31,50,000
Total 5,14,800 6,26,800 7,89,700 9,06,000 10,20,000 38,57,300
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(c) Yes Madam, the Government has asked telecom companies to train students across ITIs in line with industry's operational requirements to handle the gamut of technical work relating to roll out and maintenance of mobile network.

(d) In order that telcos can tie up with local ITIs and provide training to students as per their own needs, following steps have been taken till date:

i) Under BSNL (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited) Swavlambi Scheme -2016 apprenticeship training to ITI holders is being imparted by BSNL through on-line registration. A total of 3144 seats have been allotted (Telecom 2800, Civil 97, Eletrical 247) across all circles.

ii) Mobile TeleSystems India (MTS India) a brand of Sistema Shyam TeleServices Limited (SSTL) has conducted following training for the students of various ITIs across the nation.

S No. Organisation No. of Trainings Colleges Students trained
1 SSTL 54 24 1500

iii) While RJIL (Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited) has not tied up with ITIs for imparting industry specific training to students, RJIL has engaged with various manpower service providers across all states that provide skilled manpower for various telecom network rollout and maintenance activities such as Fiber splicing, Restoration technicians for towers, WiFi, small cells, maintenance of Li-ion batteries, electronic equipments etc. Such skilled manpower primarily comprises of students passed out from ITIs and at present more than 5,900 such students passed out from ITIs are working with such manpower service providers on RJIL's project.

e) Madam, in this regard it is submitted that this Department has not issued any directive to Private Sector Telecom Service Providers for revamping Technical institutes such as ITI for Skill building.
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